

Application No. 09/344,826
Amendment dated August 7, 2006
Reply to office action dated April 5, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 2, 10, and 18 have been amended. Claims 1, 4-6, 12-14, and 20-22 have been canceled. Claims 44-67 are withdrawn. Claims 2, 3, 7-11, 15-19, and 23-43 are currently pending in the application.

The Examiner objected to claims 6, 14, 22, 28, 29, 34, 35, 40, and 41 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner stated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 5, 7-11, 13, 15-19, 21, 23-27, 30-33, 36-39, 42, and 43 under 37 C.F.R. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Denda et al. (JP 08044313; hereinafter "Denda"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and objection and requests reconsideration of the application.

Denda teaches an error diffusion circuit for a display device. A video error detection is multiplied by an error weighted coefficient and added to the video-input signal to obtain a diffusion output signal. The error weighted coefficients are switched between the odd numbered frames and the even numbered frames. An error weighted value setting circuit (39) uses an output of a noise signal generation circuit to randomly generate a "1" and "0" to differentiate the coefficient corresponding to "1" from that corresponding to "0" for each dot.

In order for a reference to anticipate an invention, each and every element of the claimed invention must be found in a single reference. "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." MPEP § 2131. Independent claims 2, 10, and 18 have been amended to recite "determining one of at least two halftone

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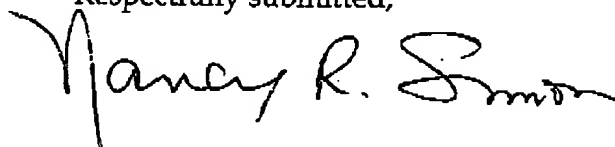
techniques in real time prior to halftoning the input image." Nothing found in Denda teaches this aspect of the claimed invention. Therefore, for at least the following reason, Denda does not anticipate Applicant's independent claims 2, 10, and 18.

"Claims in dependent form shall be construed to incorporate by reference all the limitations of the claim incorporated by reference into the dependent claim." 37 CFR 1.75. Claims 3, 7-9, 26, 27, 30, and 31 depend from independent claim 2, claims 11, 15-17, 32, 33, 36, and 37 depend from independent claim 10, and claims 19, 23-25, 38, 39, 42, and 43 depend from independent claim 18. For at least the reasons discussed above, Denda does not anticipate independent claims 2, 10, and 18. Therefore, Denda also does not anticipate dependent claims 3, 7-9, 11, 15-17, 19, 23-27, 30-33, 36-39, 42, and 43.

In light of the amendments and discussion above, Applicant believes that all claims currently remaining in the application are allowable and respectfully requests allowance of such claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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